

Wendy Kirchner - Neighbor to Neighbor

From: Wendy Kirchner
To: Liaison Team; Recognized Neighborhood Contacts
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Subject: Neighbor to Neighbor



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Picnics by the Numbers

196 picnics hosted this past summer by the Neighborhood Program

700 residents attended the Kenndale Neighborhood picnic

50 different tropical decorations adorned the LaCrosse Neighborhood Picnic

1 picnic canceled due to heavy rain at the Winsper Neighborhood

5 neighborhoods held their first Neighborhood Program picnic

Picnic Gratitude



A big THANK YOU to:

- Volunteer chefs Ray Sled, George Stahl and Kevin McQuiller
- Police Chief Kevin Milosevich
- Block Watch Coordinator

It's Grant Time

The City of Renton is currently taking applications for the second round of grants for the 2008 Neighborhood Program. Grants are available to residents who have organized themselves to plan and implement projects for the purpose of improving their neighborhoods.

The total amount of grant funds for this round of funding is \$8,947.00. Grant applications are due on Friday, October 10, 2008 at 5 p.m. (email or fax copies not accepted). Please call 425-420-6595 or 425-430-6594 for application information or visit the [Neighborhood Grant web page](#).

If you are not ready to apply for grant funds now, we urge you to be thinking about future projects. Applications for the 2009 Neighborhood Grant Program will be available after the first of the year. Over \$80,000 has been budgeted for the 2009 program. Norma McQuiller and/or Wendy Kirchner would be happy to come to your neighborhood and explain how the grant program works.

Neighborhoods on Parade



During Renton River Days, the City of Renton Neighborhood Program Staff led the Neighborhoods on Parade segment of this walk through downtown Renton.

Kids from Liberty Ridge carried various neighborhood signs and tossed candy to the spectators lining the parade route. A few bicyclists from Victoria Park, with girls donned in princess attire, rode alongside.

The North Renton Neighborhood was well represented with an antique truck towing a sailboat from the Renton Sailing Club.

Homegrown Raffles

Cyndie Parks

- K-9 Unit Pete Kordel & Shep
- Neighborhood Fire Stations
- Neighborhood Program Liaisons
- Mayor Denis Law
- City Council Members



Neighbor to Neighbor

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Wanted: Fun Stories

Every neighborhood has a story to tell. We want to hear yours. Have you completed a grant project, held a clean-up party, hosted a neighborhood event or had an inspiring speaker at one of your meetings? As the title of this publication "Neighbor to Neighbor" implies, we are looking for interesting tidbits of information to share among our Renton neighborhoods. Our hope is to collect articles with ideas that all neighborhoods can benefit from. Please submit information to wkirchner@ci.renton.wa.us

Grants Flash!



The Liberty Ridge Home Owners Association unveiled their new playground in August. This project was made possible through a matching grant funded through the Neighborhood Grant Program. Mayor Denis Law was there for the celebration along with Council Members King Parker and Rich Zwicker.

Councilmember Parker noticed a young couple with a baby approaching him to say "ōhi". Turns out that the couple's last name is King and they named their baby Parker (after the council member himself).



The Earlington Neighborhood Association had some unique raffle ideas at their annual picnic. Many residents have bountiful gardens and donated fresh produce to make a couple of beautifully assembled vegetable baskets.

They overflowed with carrots, turnips, greens, potatoes, squash, basil, tomatoes, onions and grapes. Flowers are also abundant in this neighborhood and there were several colorful bouquets to be won throughout the evening.

One neighbor made a carved "ōWelcomeō sign to add to the raffle. What a great way for a neighborhood to come together and share its bounty!!



Maureen Highlands also recently received money through the Neighborhood Grant Program to clean up their retention pond area. Joanna Cunningham was the leader on this project. For about six hours, 25 adults and their children worked hard pulling out trees and dead plants, pulling branches from over the fence and throwing them into the rented chipper.

They added plants around the

Orchards Clean-up and Graffiti Party

Behind every dark cloud there is a silver lining, or at least that is what the residents of The Orchards found out recently. After their community was tagged with graffiti, they decided this was an opportunity for their residents to come together to help out each other and their overall community.

On two separate occasions they held "ōGraffiti Clean-up Parties," which were well attended by a number of their residents, many of whom had never met each other before. One of the neighborhood kids (and her mom) set up a lemonade stand serving free refreshments.

To learn more about what's going on in the City of Renton visit the City's newsletter: [Renton CityNews](#)

retention pond and at the front entrance to their development and will be putting in benches. Many volunteers brought desserts and snacks. Two teenagers set up a table for the refreshments and manned the food and drinks. The neighborhood realized that a lot can be accomplished if you come together and do the work as a team!

Submitted by Christina Bouvier, Maureen Highlands resident.

Everyone else received a map and cleaning supplies, then in teams they went out to paint and remove graffiti.

One neighborhood home was having a garage sale. Seeing the resident volunteers having such a good time, some of the people who had randomly stopped by the sale even decided to join in and paint a few boards! There were a lot of laughs, new acquaintances made and the community was graffiti-free when it was all done.

Submitted by Lesley Bock, Orchards resident

Speaker Ideas For Neighborhood Meetings

City of Renton Code Compliance Officers

Learn how to deal with un-kept homes, trash & junk in yards, overgrown landscape, low hanging branches, abandoned vehicles, etc. For information contact

codecompliance@ci.renton.wa.us

or call 425-430-7373. Note: If calling, please leave a message and a code compliant officer will promptly respond to you.

City of Renton Block Watch Coordinator

Learn how you and your neighbors can deter criminal activity in your neighborhood. For information contact Cyndie Parks CParks@ci.renton.wa.us or call 425-430-7521.